

§ 275.183 [Reserved]

Subpart K—Tobacco Products Importers

SOURCE: T.D. ATF-422, 64 FR 71951, Dec. 22, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 275.190 Persons required to qualify.

Any person who engages in the business as an importer of tobacco products must qualify as an importer of tobacco products in accordance with the provisions of this part. Any person eligible for the exemption in § 275.50 is not engaged in the business as an importer of tobacco products.

Persons importing tobacco products and cigarette papers and tubes for personal use, in such quantities as may be allowed by Customs without payment of tax, do not require an importer's permit.

§ 275.191 Application for permit.

Except as provided in § 275.192, every person, before commencing business as an importer of tobacco products as defined in § 275.11, must make application for, and obtain, the permit provided by this subpart K. Such application must be made on ATF Form 5230.4, according to the instructions for the form. All documents required under this part to be furnished with such application must be made a part thereof.

§ 275.192 Transitional rule.

Any person who—

(a) Was engaged in the business as an importer of tobacco products before January 1, 2000, and

(b) Who files an application with ATF before January 1, 2000, may continue to import tobacco products and cigarette papers and tubes pending action on their application by ATF. Pending such final action, all provisions of chapter 52 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 will apply to such applicant.

§ 275.193 Corporate documents.

Every corporation, before commencing business as an importer of tobacco products, must furnish with its application for permit, required by § 275.191, a true copy of the corporate charter or a certificate of corporate ex-

istence or incorporation executed by the appropriate officer of the State in which incorporated. The corporation must likewise furnish duly authenticated extracts of the stockholders' meetings, bylaws, or directors' meetings, listing the offices the incumbents of which are authorized to sign documents or otherwise act in behalf of the corporation in matters relating to 26 U.S.C. chapter 52, and regulations issued thereunder. The corporation must also furnish evidence, in duplicate, of the identity of the officers and directors and each person who holds more than ten percent of the stock of such corporation. Where any of the information required by this section has previously been filed with the appropriate ATF officer, and such information is currently complete and accurate, a written statement to that effect, in duplicate, will be sufficient for the purpose of this section.

§ 275.194 Articles of partnership or association.

Every partnership or association, before commencing business as an importer of tobacco products, must furnish with its application for permit required by § 275.191 a true copy of the articles of partnership or association, if any, or certificate of partnership or association where required to be filed by any State, county, or municipality. Where a partnership or association has previously filed such documents with the appropriate ATF officer and such documents are currently complete and accurate, a written statement, in duplicate, to that effect by the partnership or association will be sufficient for the purpose of this section.

§ 275.195 Trade name certificate.

Every person, before commencing business under a trade name as an importer of tobacco products, must furnish with his application for a permit, required by § 275.191, a true copy of the certificate or other document, if any, issued by a State, county, or municipal authority in connection with the transaction of business under such trade name. If no such true copy of the certificate or other document is so required, a written statement, in duplicate, to that effect by such person will

§ 275.196

be sufficient for the purpose of this section.

§ 275.196 Power of attorney.

If the application for permit or any report, return, notice, schedule, or other document required to be executed is to be signed by an individual (including one of the partners for a partnership or one of the members of an association) as an attorney in fact for any person, or if an individual is to otherwise officially represent such person, power of attorney on Form 1534 must be furnished to the appropriate ATF officer. (For power of attorney in connection with conference and practice requirements see subpart E, part 70 of this chapter.) Such power of attorney is not required for persons whose authority is furnished with the corporate documents as required by § 275.194. Form 1534 does not have to be filed again with the appropriate ATF officer if such form has previously been submitted to ATF and is still in effect.

§ 275.197 Additional information.

The appropriate ATF officer may require such additional information as may be deemed necessary to determine whether the applicant is entitled to a permit under the provisions of this part. The applicant must, when required by the appropriate ATF officer, furnish as a part of his application for such permit such additional information as the appropriate ATF officer deems necessary to determine whether the applicant is entitled to a permit.

§ 275.198 Investigation of applicant.

Appropriate ATF officers may inquire or investigate to verify the information in connection with an application for a permit. The investigation will ascertain whether the applicant is, by reason of his business experience, financial standing, and trade connections, likely to maintain operations in compliance with 26 U.S.C. chapter 52, and regulations thereunder; whether the applicant has disclosed all material information required, or whether the applicant has made any material false statement in the application for such permit.

27 CFR Ch. I (4–1–04 Edition)

§ 275.199 Notice of contemplated disapproval.

If the appropriate ATF officer has reason to believe that the applicant is not entitled to a permit, the appropriate ATF officer will promptly give to the applicant a notice of the contemplated disapproval of the application and opportunity for hearing thereon in accordance with part 71 of this chapter. If, after such notice and opportunity for hearing, the appropriate ATF officer finds that the applicant is not entitled to a permit, an order will be prepared stating the findings on which the permit request is denied.

[T.D. ATF-422, 64 FR 71951, Dec. 22, 1999, as amended by T.D. ATF-463, 66 FR 42734, Aug. 15, 2001]

§ 275.200 Issuance of permit.

If the application for permit, together with the required supporting documents, is approved, the appropriate ATF officer will issue a permit on ATF F 5200.24 to the applicant as an importer of tobacco products.

§ 275.201 Duration of permit.

(a) Permits other than temporary permits issued under paragraph (b) of this section will be valid for a period of three years from the effective date shown on the permit, ATF F 5200.24.

(b) Temporary permits will be issued for a one-year period to those applicants described in § 275.192.

§ 275.202 Renewal of permit.

Importers wishing to continue operations beyond the expiration of their current permit must renew their permit by making application within 30 days of such expiration on ATF F 5200.24, in accordance with instructions for the form. The expiring permit will continue in effect until final action is taken by ATF on the application for renewal, provided a timely application for renewal is filed.

§ 275.203 Retention of permit and supporting documents.

The importer must retain the permit, together with the copy of the application and supporting documents returned with the permit, at the same place where the records required by